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ALLONSANFAN

ITALY. 1974. 117 minutes. Color. Dir: Paolo and Vittorio Taviani.
An Italtoons Presentation.

ALLONSANFAN breaks all the conventions and restraints of the historical drama. Characters are likely to burst into song at any moment, armies line up for a chorus line. It's as if Monty Python took up commedia dell'arte with Bertolucci writing the screenplay.

1816. Napoleon's Empire has fallen. Italy, like the rest of Europe, is exhausted from twenty years of war. The Kings have returned to their thrones. The revolution is over, but a tenacious few continue their quest for freedom. Marcello Mastroianni stars as Fulvio, an aristocrat infatuated with the struggle of the past, but without much commitment to continue the fight. Betraying and then rejoining his comrades through several serio-comic encounters, the film takes on the aura of a lushly drawn opera with wonderfully hilarious absurdities.

Made long before the Tavianis went on to such landmark films as *PADRE PADRONE*, *THE NIGHT OF THE SHOOTING STARS* and *KAOS*, this film's recent American release caused critics to proclaim it the finest work of the brothers' canon.

"An exquisite mixture of grand opera, comedy, social commentary, historical tomfoolery and sex. A comic masterpiece that can comfortably stand with the best films of the year."

— Michael Blowen, THE BOSTON GLOBE

**SELECTED AS ONE OF THE "TEN BEST FILMS OF THE YEAR"
BY J. HOBERMAN AND DAVID EDELSTEIN (VILLAGE VOICE)
AND SCOTT ROSENBERG (THE BOSTON PHOENIX)**

